

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-22, drawn to a radiation curable coating composition, classified in class 118, subclass 287.23.
- II. Claims 23-32, drawn to a method of applying a coating, classified in class 427, subclass 487.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the radiation curable coating could be applied to a different substrate such as wood. Additionally, the coating composition of group I could have a composition comprising 90 parts of oligomeric acrylate, 5 parts of acrylate, 3 parts of colloidal silica, and 2 parts of a photoinitiator.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

During a telephone conversation with Hahn Pham on 24 July 2002 a provisional election was made WITH traverse to prosecute the invention of group I, claims 1-22.

Art Unit: 1762

Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action.

Claims 23-32 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37

CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).